

Gentleman Bandit Escapes From Jail

John Austin Hooper, college graduate and gentleman highwayman, who was captured at The Dalles recently and who was charged with a series of the most daring robberies perpetrated in Oregon for many years, including the Rogue River bank robbery, broke jail at Grants Pass Sunday morning and made a spectacular escape. Hooper was held at Grants Pass to stand trial for the robbery of the railroad station at that place.

Hooper effected his escape with the assistance of an Italian who was held on a statutory charge. The couple by a carefully arranged plan pounced upon Sheriff Smith as he was bringing their breakfast. Smith was bound and placed in a cell. The couple then separated and the Italian, losing his head, was captured half an hour later. Hooper made a clean getaway and held up a man in a buggy and forced the driver to take him to near Rogue River.

Although posses have scoured the country, no trace of the cool-headed bandit have been found. Hooper was a model prisoner and seemingly a gentleman. He was most assuredly an artist in his line but had never killed a man. It is expected that he will eventually join the Indians on Klamath river, where he has friends.

Hooper was the famous "whistling bandit" who forced Gordon Jacobs, manager of the Jones store at Hornbrook, to march down from his residence accompanied by his wife and open the store for Hooper to rob.

In concluding an article on the escape the Redding Searchlight says:

"If the Oregon officers had yielded Hooper to the California authorities he would not have been prosecuted for the Hornbrook affair. He is a paroled convict from Folsom, where he was sentenced for life for a robbery committed in Alameda county. He had served ten years of his term when he was paroled in 1914. So all that would have been necessary to do in this state would be to send Hooper back to Folsom for breaking his parole and let him stay there the rest of his life."

Things are all wrong when your wife won't turn the freezer twenty minutes so you can have five minutes' pleasure eating ice cream.

No Timber Loss As Yet From Fire

Portland, August 15.—Reports recently received by the Western Forestry and Conservation Association, from all protective agencies in the northwest, show practically no loss of timber through forest fires up to the present time.

Favorable weather conditions and careful preparations for the season are the chief factors which have so far made for a clean record on the part of patrol organizations.

Following the plan of previous seasons, each protective agency began, well in advance of dry weather, to get its territory in the best possible shape for successfully combating any fires which might become started.

Additional lookout points were equipped, telephone lines extended, and repaired, new trails constructed, and every effort made to secure the best possible co-operation between the various patrol organizations. These efforts are now bearing fruit in the prompt detection and suppression of all fires which become started.

Although the beginning of August saw conditions much more favorable than those of a year ago, there is still time for the woods to become dry and only the greatest care and vigilance will prevent fires from starting during the next few weeks.

Oregon experienced no fires worthy of mention during July. A few fires escaped as a result of slash burning but were speedily extinguished without loss of green timber. About 300 wardens are on duty outside of the national forests and this number will probably be slightly increased if rains are not forthcoming within the next few days. The need for strict enforcement of the forest laws has been especially emphasized this season, and a campaign to eliminate the smoke nuisance has been vigorously carried on.

Standard legal blank forms of every kind may be procured at the Tidings office in any quantity.

Attorney's Opinion on Jail Contracts

At a recent meeting of the city council, Councilman Cunningham raised an objection to the way in which the committee in charge of the building of the new jail was letting contracts. Mr. Cunningham claimed that since the city charter stated that all contracts of over \$500 should be advertised and since the jail cost would aggregate over that amount, bids should have been advertised. Councilman Ware of the jail committee stated that the committee had not asked for a bid on the whole construction but was subdividing the proposition and letting separate contracts for the cells, the work of building and the material, none of which came anywhere near \$500.

This explanation failed to satisfy Mr. Cunningham and the city attorney was asked for an opinion. His opinion was read at Tuesday's meeting and after stating the proposition expressed his interpretation to be that the matter hinged on whether it was the intention of the council to let one contract or to let separate contracts. His conception was that the committee had the right to let the separate contracts without advertising should the amounts not exceed \$500, unless it was understood that the contract was to be let as one for the whole proposition.

Councilman Ware stated that the council had given the committee instructions to build the jail and that he was persuaded that money could be saved by handling the matter with separate contracts and that unless the committee received instructions from the council to the contrary they would proceed to have the jail built in that manner.

Railroad Officials to be Here Friday

Mr. John M. Scott, general passenger agent of the Southern Pacific Company, accompanied by Mrs. Scott, will spend Friday of this week in Ashland. Mr. and Mrs. Scott have been with the Knights of Pythias at Crater Lake, where Mr. Scott was initiated into the order in the interesting ceremony on the island. They will return from the lake on Thursday night, and have arranged to spend the day here on Friday looking over the general development that is going on. They will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Duryea at luncheon and in the afternoon will be taken to the springs and about the city by Mr. Kramer and Mr. Duryea.

Fairy Feature Picture at Lyric

Every child, and grown-up too, should see the Mutual masterpicture which will be shown Sunday and Monday nights at the Lyric theatre and at a special children's matinee Monday afternoon.

Imagine elves, brownies, goblins, and such folk, upon the screen. And that isn't all you will see in "Rumpelstiltskin," Grimm's famous story, made into a motion picture play.

There is a wonderful scene when the Prince and the Girl sail away on a magic carpet, miles above the earth. Yes—you must see the Mutual masterpicture "Rumpelstiltskin"—with the Court of King Cole—the dwarf's enchanted cavern—and all the rest. A four-part drama, full of real humor and human interest.

It is a beautiful play to look at—magnificent scenery, brilliant costumes, weird stage effects, fine acting. The story, too, is mighty interesting—a screen version of one of Grimm's most popular tales. It's the play you read about in the Saturday Evening Post. On the whole, a wonderful picture for young and old.

The Lyric orchestra will play specially arranged music. Masterpicture prices of 10 and 15 cents.

N. J. Reasoner, a former real estate man of this city, now pastor of the Christian church in Palisade, Colo., arrived in the city the first of the week and is renewing old associations. He will also attend to business interests in the city before returning to his new home.

A matinee especially for the children. Mutual masterpicture fairy story at the Lyric theatre Monday afternoon.

Council Makes Statement Explaining Electric Proposition

To the Voters of Ashland:

After several months of negotiations with representatives of the Ashland Electric Light & Power Company and the California-Oregon Power Company, the council has completed a contract with said interests, which contract is being published in our local newspapers and upon which citizens are to express by vote their approval or disapproval at an election to be held August 25, 1915.

In brief, the contract provides, among other things, that the city for twenty years shall buy of the California-Oregon Power Company any electric current required which the city can not make at its own power plant, and at prices ranging from one cent down to three-quarters cent per kilowatt hour according to quantity, and that an amount not less than \$700 per month be paid the company, based on the current used.

In return for these acts by the city the company agrees, among other things, to sell to the city such current as it may require, at prices stated, during said period, and agrees not to sell to any other party or individual within the city.

At present the company has 625 customers in Ashland, being about twenty-five less than has the city. It has for the past two years had an

annual income averaging over \$1000 per month. By the contract terms these customers will be taken over by the city and their monthly payments be then made to the city.

The electric committee, and in fact the entire council, believe that even with no improvement in conditions the city's income from the company customers will more than pay the \$700 per month, and the increased expense of maintenance and the interest on the increased plant required to serve the entire city with electricity.

The city's electric plant can not make sufficient current to supply more than the present street and residence lighting, as a rule. The city's plant is more than self-sustaining. It is profitable. In general terms, the city under the contract can purchase additional current cheaper than it can manufacture it, and we believe can continue at a profit its present low rates for domestic use to the old company's customers, as well as its own. The council unanimously believes that with the contract ratified the operation of the electric department will be more profitable and more advantageous to the city than heretofore.

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Tuesday Conclave Of City Fathers

The city fathers took up the reins of city affairs at 7:45 last Tuesday without a spectator in the usually well-filled benches. All of the city departments were represented.

Recorder Gillette read the minutes of the previous meeting and a following adjourned meeting.

A matter of sanitary arrangements for the building on the public market lot was referred to the water committee. Mr. Van Leer has been granted permission to lease the building from the city and will establish his blacksmith shop at that location.

A bill from Attorney Moore for additional services in conjunction with the springs commission in the recent purchase of land by the city, and which did not come under his contract with the city, was allowed and a warrant for \$116.80, which the council deemed a reasonable charge, was ordered drawn.

A communication from the springs commission, requesting permission to connect the park irrigation system to the city mains, was granted.

A communication from the chief of police at Medford in regard to second-hand stores was referred to the ordinance committee.

An application for permission to tear down his barn at 84 Alida avenue, from W. S. Van Dyke, was referred to the street committee. Mr. Van Dyke stated in his petition that he intended building a new barn.

The report of the special committee on jail matters was received and filed. The city attorney's opinion on the matter was read and filed.

Mr. Ware then moved that the council go into executive session. The reporters gathered up their pencils and faded into the night.

Artistic Booklet Tidings Product

The new "glass of water" booklet, the first copies of which are now being distributed, was printed in its entirety by the job department of the Ashland Tidings. Not throwing any unearned bouquets at the job department, but merely stating a fact, the booklet is as artistic piece of work as has ever been turned out in the state. The cover is three-color work of a nature seldom attempted by a small city printing shop. Fifty thousand booklets will be printed and the publicity department and Commercial Club hopes to have enough so that every citizen of Ashland may send them to places where they may be effective.

Monday matinee of the beautiful Mutual masterpicture fairy story, "Rumpelstiltskin," at Lyric theatre. Send the children.

Medford is promised a \$600,000 sugar beet factory in time for the crop of 1916.

The Auto and The Fisherman

Fishing, the keenest of sports, has been even more popularized in Oregon by the automobile. The auto has eliminated distances; it has brought the angler to stream and lake, and it has made week-end trips to the mountains possible, not only from a time but also from a financial standpoint.

Hundreds of streams throughout southern Oregon are visited weekly by city dwellers. A few years ago it was impossible to get to these streams on a week-end. Now a few hours, perhaps half a day at most, are required when the angler speeds along in an automobile.

No longer is the fisherman dependent upon train schedules to return home. There is no more waiting until 11:57 at night for a train. As soon as the angler is through whipping the stream for the day he can jump into his own car. And the trip home is every bit as enjoyable as the going journey. The road never is long when traveled in an auto.

Scores of automobile parties leave the valley towns every Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. All are bound for other cities and towns or for the mountains of surrounding districts, and almost every autoist has some favorite nook or dell.

The trout streams are numerous. Because of the volume of water carried in most of the "creeks" there always will be fish for the week-end angler. The streams never will be completely fished out.

Man, Wife and Burro; This Is the Life

No blowouts, no punctures, no carburetor trouble, no gasoline to buy. A horseless carriage such as arrived in Ashland yesterday is the way to travel. Drawn by a diminutive donkey, a cart loaded down with camping paraphernalia and followed by Joseph Darrell and wife of Oroville, Cal., rolled into the city yesterday noon and left for the south this morning. The couple tell us that they left their California home on June 17 and have traveled 606 miles since then, all on foot. They came north by way of Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Susanville, Sierra Valley, Last Chance, Harney Lake, Eagle Lake, Grasshopper Valley, Beber, Lookout, Merrill, Klamath Falls and over Green Spring mountain to Ashland.

The couple, or rather trio, for we imagine the burro would be as good company as many men, state that they have averaged about twelve miles a day. They do not travel in the afternoon and camp wherever fancy dictates. From Ashland they will return to Oroville by the coast route.

Auction Sale

Household goods in the yard of the Polytechnic school next Saturday at 2 o'clock.
R. J. FERGUSON.

Medford Police Offer Suggestion

A communication from the chief of police at Medford to the local head of the police force was read at Tuesday evening's council and will doubtless result in an addition being made to the recently passed ordinance governing the conducting of second-hand stores.

The Medford chief states that he had "pinched one dealer to the tune of \$10 for failing to come through with his report and had experienced no trouble since." He states that a good deal of the trouble in Medford had resulted from boys selling stolen goods to the dealers and the Medford authorities had put a stop to it by passing a law that no dealer should buy second-hand articles from a minor.

Chief Porter stated that much the same trouble had been experienced with boys here who disposed of stolen goods through the second-hand stores. The matter was referred to the ordinance committee, who will draw up an amendment to the ordinance which will include the prohibiting of buying such goods from minors.

Under the intended amendment a boy who wishes to dispose of a second-hand article which is legitimately his will have to have his father or some one of age sell it for him and stand responsible.

The ordinance as it now stands makes it compulsory for the dealers to report every article which they buy during the day and has been an invaluable aid in recovering stolen goods, at the same time protecting the dealer.

Georgia Minstrels Friday at Vining

A real old minstrel parade such as Ashland has not seen for a number of long, dreary months will herald the coming of the biggest and best minstrel show in captivity next Friday. Every child in town is devouring the bills that are scattered on the streets, and we would be willing to wager that more than one grown-up sneaks a surreptitious look at the program which is printed in this paper. Thirty-five coons—count 'em. I am going to borrow the neighbor's children. If you haven't any of your own, why don't you do the same? The prices are low, only 25, 50 and 75 cents.

Many Bucks Fall Prey to Huntsmen

Several bucks, of course all "big ones," have fallen prey to the prowess of Ashland huntsmen. On the other hand, much to the disappointment of morbid pessimists, no one has been killed.

Brakeman Lewis of the Southern Pacific Company probably carries off high honors, since his buck was secured shortly after dawn Sunday. Lewis was hunting in the vicinity of Siskiyou with Walter Frulan and Mr. Bashahan. Much to the delight of his many friends, E. E. Phipps brought down a nice one Sunday and is living high on venison steak. Carroll Wagner returned Tuesday from Beaver creek, where the Wagner and Carter families are camped, and reported that Horace Mitchell had secured a fine six-point buck near Deadwood and that Walter Hash had also enrolled his name on the lucky list. M. N. Long and son Roy, who waited the opening of the season on the other side of Mount Ashland, were repaid for their trip with the securing of a deer. There are a couple of dozen parties out who are still to be heard from and no doubt the total of bucks killed on the opening day will approach a dozen at least.

Bridge Carpenter Injured In Fall

J. W. Losier, who has been employed on a Southern Pacific bridge gang at Oregon City, Tuesday fell from a scaffold about eighteen feet to the ground, sustaining severe injury to his head, arms and legs. He was taken to the Good Samaritan hospital in Portland, where he will likely be confined for some time.

Monday matinee. Feature fairy story. Lyric theatre.

Unique Booklet Just off The Press

The publicity department is beginning to distribute its new booklet, the first issue of which is just off the press.

This booklet is a unique and original piece of community advertising literature. When the manager of the publicity department decided to accept the offer made by the springs commission to take charge of the publicity work in connection with Ashland's development into a resort city he made up his mind to turn out something in the way of printed matter for the city that would be different from anything that had been used for community advertising. This booklet, which was designed and written by him, is the result of his efforts to turn out something striking in character. The booklet is made in the shape of a glass of water, and is, therefore, typical of Ashland's greatest asset—its wonderful mineral springs. It contains 2,500 words of reading matter, with a picture of the city on the middle pages. It treats of Ashland's advantages and natural resources and its attractions for the tourist and homeseeker. It is conservative in the statements it makes, and avoids any semblance of "hot air" advertising. It aims to set forth the story of Ashland's development into a resort city in a plain, straightforward manner, without any frills or exaggeration of any kind, because the author believes the truth is always good enough to tell about a good town, such as it is his honest conviction Ashland is. Those of our citizens who have seen and read this new piece of community literature seem pleased with it.

Fifty thousand of these books are to be printed. They will be sent all over the United States through a number of agencies. It is the hope of the publicity department that Ashland people will use them freely and send them in all their letters that go out of the state. Those who desire to obtain a supply may have all they will use by applying to the manager, or his assistant, in the Commercial Club. The best way to tell your friends about Ashland is to send them this attractive little booklet, that is so full of general information about the city.

The publicity department is sending a copy of the booklet, in a special letter, to 300 commercial organizations on the Pacific coast.

Council Will Go Ahead With Jail

The special committee consisting of Messrs. Cunningham and Ware and Attorney Moore, which was appointed at last week's council meeting to investigate the legal phases of the proposed building of the new jail back of the city hall fire station, reported at Tuesday evening's meeting. The report stated that as far as the committee could ascertain, the council had good and ample legal right to locate the jail as previously planned. Moreover, the intention of the committee to do so was signified, but, it was believed, without material injury or inconvenience to the adjacent property or property owners. The report came as a result of objections made at last week's meeting by E. D. Briggs, representing the owners of the Pioneer block, to the building of the jail on the intended location. The building owners stated that the intended building would cut off ingress and egress from and to the rear of Provost's store and could be stopped legally because of an old agreement entered into at the time the city hall was built which gave the property owners to the south the right of an eighteen-foot alleyway where the fire station now stands.

The committee's report was approved and filed.

Banjo Artists Will Play Again

Davis and Davis, the wonderful banjo artists who appeared at the Lyric last week, have been secured for a return engagement by special request for next Saturday evening only. These wonderful musicians received the warmest reception that has ever been accorded a vaudeville act in Ashland. Ask the people who heard them.

Mrs. Simons will have new showing fall hats Saturday, 21st. 1t